

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/870,615

Examiner

Dennis G. Bonshock

Applicant(s)

BROUSSARD, SCOTT J.

Art Unit

2173

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Appeal Brief filed on 11-09-04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6, 8-13, and 15-19.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 31 May 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

RAYMOND J. BAYERL
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2173

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Kevin L. Daffer on 2-17-2005.

3. The application has been amended as follows: In claim 1 line 1, after "A system of software components" please insert -- "on a computer readable medium," --.

4. The claim now reads as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A system of software components on a computer readable medium, which can be invoked during runtime by an application program running under an operating system to display a parent object and a child object, wherein the child object is displayed in accordance with the following background color inheritance order:

if a background color of the child object is declared, the child object is displayed with the declared background color;

if the background color of the child object is not declared, and a background color is globally defined for the system of components, the child object is displayed with the globally defined background color, which is independent of the operating system; and

if the background color of the child object is not declared, and the background color setting is not globally defined for the system of components, the child object is displayed with the background color of the parent object.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

7. The examiner considered the Applicant's Appeal Brief filed on 11-09-04, and after updated search, no prior art of record has taught that which was taught by the amended claims.

8. The Appeal Brief filed on 11-09-04 points out the importance of the inheritance order between the three options and provides reasons for the specific order, thereby overcoming the prior art.

9. The prior art of record, MageLang Institute, *Swing Short Course, Part 1*, hereinafter MageLang, *Java Platform 1.2 API Specification*, hereinafter JavaSPEC, JavaOne's *Java Foundation Classes (a.k.a. "Swing") Component Architecture*, hereinafter JavaOne, Bogdan, Patent #6,191,790 (Inheritable Property Shading System for Three-Dimensional Rendering of User Interface Controls), and *Mixing heavy and light components*, by Amy Fowler, hereinafter MSUN, teaches a system of components evoked during runtime by an application program running under an operating system to display a parent (parent window) and child object (the button). The background color of the JButton being able to be set directly, but if not set its default is invisible (showing the parents color). Building default tables to store default colors, fonts, icons and borders for components, and that all subsequent objects will use the new values. The ability to set the look and feel to Metal, which presents the same look and feel, no matter what operating system it is running on. Initializing the colors of the background to the default color from the defaults table. The Bogdan reference by itself teaches inheritable properties, including background color, in which selection can be made as to which member, either the parent or the global system setting, the child's background

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color will be derived from. The applicant amended the claims, from their original representation, to show that the order of inheritance is of particular importance: Claim 1 was amended to include the limitation that "the child object is displayed in accordance with the following background color inheritance order:", Claim 8 was amended to include the limitation that "the method is adapted to display the child object in accordance with the following background color inheritance order:", Claim 15 was amended to include the limitation that "the child object is displayed by the system of software components in accordance with the following background color inheritance order:" Though Bogdan teaches all of the steps in the inheritance, it is acknowledged that Bogdan doesn't teach the specific order of operations as that of the presently claimed invention.

10. The prior art of record does not teach or fairly suggest the combination as presented by independent claims 1, 8, and 15.

11. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion


12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dennis G. Bonshock whose telephone number is (571) 272-4047. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 6:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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13. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on (571) 272-4048. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

14. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

2-17-05
dgb



RAYMOND J. BAYERL
PRIMARY EXAMINER
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